

COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY FOR PATENT APPLICATION

As a below-named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe that I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled: Method for Balancing Return Currents in Plasma Processing Apparatus, the specification of which

 X is attached hereto;
 was filed on as application serial no. ;
 was amended on .

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Sec. 1.56(a).

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, Sec. 119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

PRIOR FOREIGN APPLICATION(S)

Priority

(Serial No.)	(Country)	(Filing Date)		Yes <u> </u> No <u> </u>
(Serial No.)	(Country)	(Filing Date)		Yes <u> </u> No <u> </u>

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, Sec. 120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, Sec. 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Sec. 1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

(Serial No.)	(Filing Date)	(Status)
(Serial No.)	(Filing Date)	(Status)

I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or agent(s) to prosecute this application, to file a corresponding international application, to prosecute and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark office connected therewith:

I hereby appoint Jeffrey J. Brooks, Reg. No. 35,834; Michael S. Brandt, Reg. No. 39,119; David B. Ritchie, Registration No. 31,562; Robert E. Krebs, Registration No. 25,885; Marc S. Hanish, Registration No. 42,626; John P. Schaub, Registration No. 42,125; Adrienne Yeung, Registration No. 44,000; Steven J. Robbins, Registration No. 40,299; Thierry K. Lo, Registration No. 49,097; William Samuel Niece, Registration No. 47,824; J. Davis Gilmer, Registration No. 44,711; William E. Winters, Registration No. 42,232; Masako Ando, (37 C.F.R. §10.9 (b)); and John Klaas Uilkema, Registration No. 20,282; Becky L. Troutman, Registration No. 36,703; Hal J. Bohner, Registration No. 27,856;

Please direct all telephone calls to David B. Ritchie at (408) 292-5800 and all correspondence to:

Thelen Reid & Priest LLP
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San Jose, CA 95164-0640

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Wherefore, I pray that Letters Patent be granted to me for the invention or discovery described and claimed in the foregoing specification and claims, and I do hereby subscribe my name to the foregoing specification and claims, declaration, and power of attorney.

First Inventor's Full Name: Robert J. Steger

Inventor's signature:  Date: 29 July, 2003

Residence: 2240 Homestead Court, #307, Los Altos, California 94024
Citizenship: United States of America